Simi Settlers' Amateur Radio Club

Short Circuit

The next **meeting** is at the
Simi Senior Center,
3900 Avenida Simi, Simi Valley.
Thursday February 8 2024 at 7:00 PM.

The next Simi Settlers Pizza Night is at
Toppers, 2408 Erringer Road, Simi Valley.
Thursday February 1 2024 at 6:00 PM.

February 2024

Nets of Interest

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
LSB Net 8pm 3.908 MHz **SSARC 2 Meter Net*** 8:30 pm SMRA-ERN Repeater 146.805 -0.6MHz PL100.0 or 445.580 -5.0MHz PL100.0 The Newbie net 7 pm, Bozo Repeater 147.885 (– 127.3)	**Condor Connection** 7pm (Plays Newsline) Frazier Mountain 224.720-1.6 MHz PL156.7	**LSB Net** 8pm 3.908 MHz **ACS Area 1** Simi Valley SMRA-ERN 7:05pm Repeater 146.805 -0.6MHz PL100.0 or 445.580 -5.0MHz PL100.0 **ATN-CA Net** 7:30pm http://atn-tv.org/netnig ht.htm **ACS Area 1** Simplex net, 6:45 PM on 145.510MHz	**Channel Islands chapter** **10-10 International** 28.34 MHz at 10AM and 6PM **Mesh VOIP Net*** 8pm 2.4/5.8 GHz Mesh	**LSB Net** 8pm 3.908 MHz		**SSARC SSB HF Net** 8:30am **7.240** (+ or - QRM/N) 40 meter **CW-QRP** 9am 7.032 MHz **Quad Squad net** 1PM on 21.365 MHz

Additional information on local nets can be found on the CVARC web site at:
http://www.cvarc.org

* For more information, see http://www.pvarc.club/mesh/mesh-applications/

Here are our 8:30 PM Sunday night net controllers for the next month:

Jan	7	Kevin KD6UTC
	14	Ron K6RIN
	21	Matt KN6SEC
	28	Brian KM6MIN
Feb	4	Kevin KD6UTC
	11	Ron K6RIN
	18	Ron K6RIN
	25	Matt KN6SEC

ACS/ARES Corner

Frank Valdez KI6OQ is the Area 1 Emergency Coordinator

We are always looking for ACS members that would like to become Net Controllers. You will receive hands-on training at the Simi Valley PD (where we normally conduct the Weekly Net). It is both fun and at times challenging. You will gain valuable experience in running a controlled Net as well as becoming more than just familiar with the equipment in the Radio Room at the PD. If you would like to volunteer for this, just message Frank Valdez at frankki6oq@gmail.com.

If anyone is interested in how to set up your own packet station, RMS Winlink station, or a Mesh Node, contact Frank, he will point you in the right direction.

Barry K6ZA wants to remind everybody that they have options to check in with something other than a 2 meter handheld. The **80 meter net is Tuesday nights at 18:30 (6:30 PM) on 3.987 MHz.**

The **Area 1** (Simi Valley) net occurs Tuesdays. Generally it is just a brief check in, but usually some news about upcoming events is passed on.

The simplex net is on 145.510 at **6:45 PM**. The regular net is on the 146.805 (-, PL100) repeater at **7:00 PM. Stop by and say Hi.** You do not have to do anything other than check in to test out your simplex or repeater connection.

NOTE: Please be advised that we hold the Tue. **countywide** net at 19:30 (7:30PM) on the Sulphur Mountain WD6EBY repeater 145.200, minus 600 KHz offset, CTCSS of 127.3. Until further notice, this will be our standard frequency for countywide communications.

Visit **vccomm.org** for more updates.

In February, we have the upcoming Ventura Marathon. A full day out scattered from Ojai to Ventura at water stops, SAG support, start and finish lines, and various roving support.

When: Sunday, February 25th, 2024

Organizer: Burt Auerbach

Description: Major event requiring a large number of Ham volunteers

Member Updates

A new DMR Repeater from Paul WD6EBY

PVARC has this week installed a DMR UHF repeater on South Mtn.
The parameters of the repeater can be found at:
https://brandmeister.network/?page=device&id=313847

I invite the DMR community to tryout the repeater and to please let me know how it is performing for you.

If you have any questions or concerns please let me know.

Paul Strauss WD6EBY
www.pvarc.club

The Settlers are going to be forever enshrined on the Internet!

We got this email:

My name is Kay Savetz, and I curate the Digital Library of Amateur Radio & Communications. DLARC is a project of the Internet Archive (the not-for-profit online library best known for The Wayback Machine.) DLARC is growing to be a massive online library of the past and present of ham radio and related communications. It is funded by a grant from Amateur Radio Digital Communications. You can see what we have so far at https://archive.org/details/dlarc

I am writing to ask permission to include your Short Circuit newsletter in the archive. They would be in a sub-collection of their own, with a link to your official site. This will provide a long-term backup of your content and increase its visibility to new readers. They will also be full-text searchable. It would look a lot like this: https://archive.org/details/qcwa?sort=-date

I see you have many issues at your web site. If you have older issues on paper that need to be digitized, we can do that at no cost to your club.

Here's more information about the DLARC project: https://blog.archive.org/2023/09/12/dlarc-90000/

Thank you,
Kay Savetz K6KJN - Internet Archive's Program Manager, Special Collections

At the last meeting, we voted YES, and will be uploading old newsletters.

Repeater Updates

Simi North (currently all Mesh) is probably going to survive at its current location. While the new owner of the property wanted to charge a nominal fee, it was more than any of us had in pocket money. Orv W6BI convinced the owner that we were a non-profit (PVARC), and so we only have to pay for electricity. Under $10 per month, how about you throw some spare change in the repeater fund?

Simi West, where the 805 repeater is housed.The time out timer has been updated from 3 to 6 minutes. Still to be done is create something that changes the polarity of the control signals from the 440 radios into the controller.

Some Activities for the Club

Here is a list of major items for 2024. I am sure as the year progresses, a few more things will pop up. Anything to add?

February 25th Ventura Marathon - Many Settlers support this event

March Simi Valley Library event

April 28 Mountains to Beach Marathon - Many Settlers support this event
Spring Picnic

May 4th Spring Street Fair

June 22-23 Field Day

July - (nothing yet!)

August 13 Souls of Kabul

September - (nothing yet!)

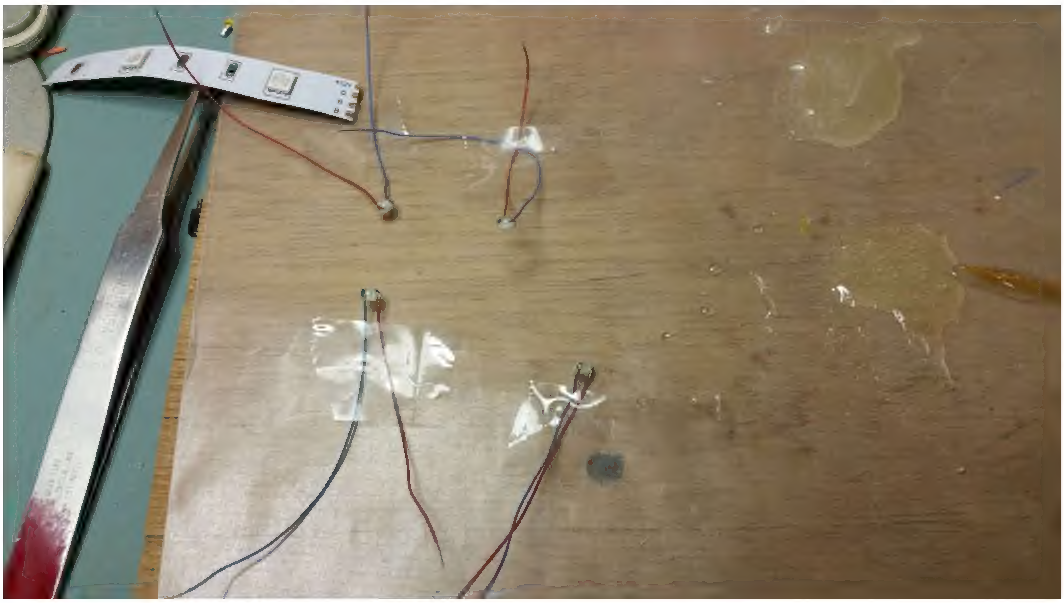
October 19-20 Jamboree on the Air,
Fall Picnic
Fall Street Fair

November - (nothing yet!)

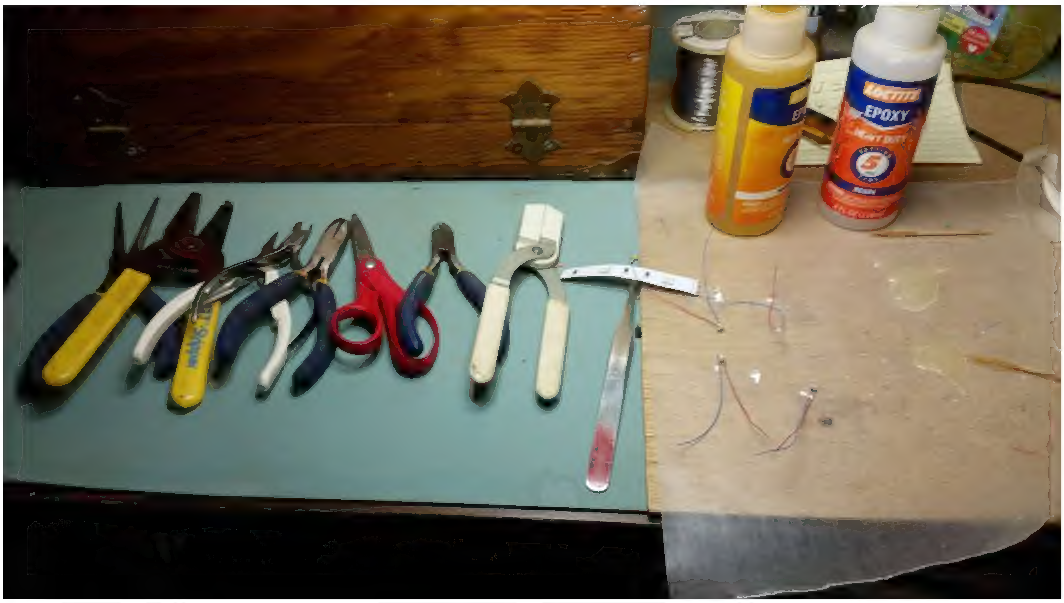
December Club Party, Santa to the Sea marathon

Radio backlight updates by Eric KE6MLF

Still working on replacing the backlights for my 20 year old Alinco DJ-605 mobile radio. Here are some surface mount white LEDs that Joe W6JWP help find. Soldered on the tiny blue and red wires. A pair, with a spare set if they get broken during installation. Coated the soldered connections with epoxy to keep things from shorting out.

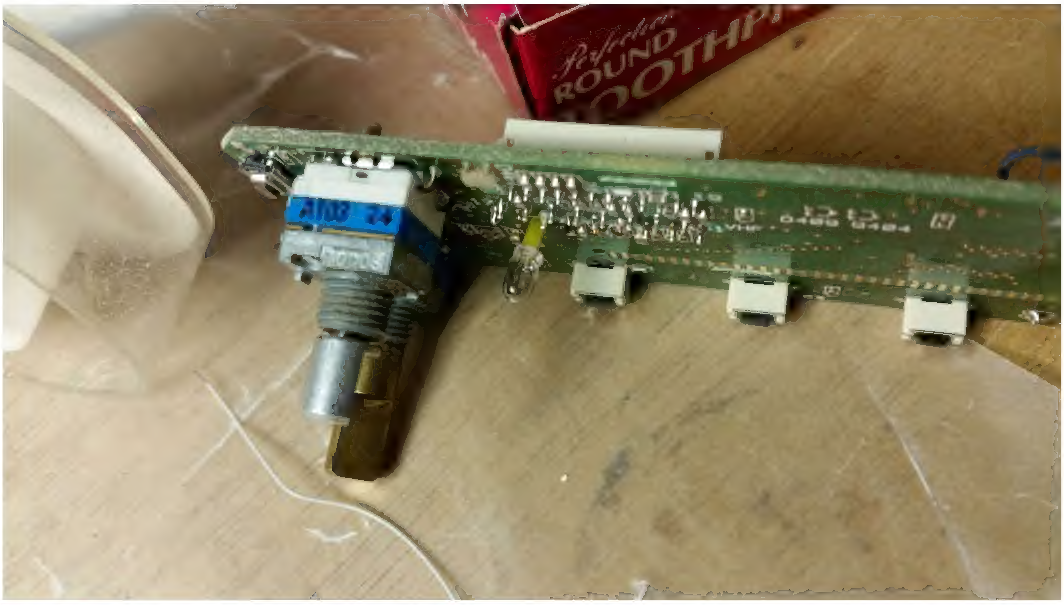


Something new. Notice how the tools are all lined up on a side, not just piled helter skelter on top of the bench. Going to try it for a while. Maybe I will miss having my normal messy work bench and start having convulsions or something.



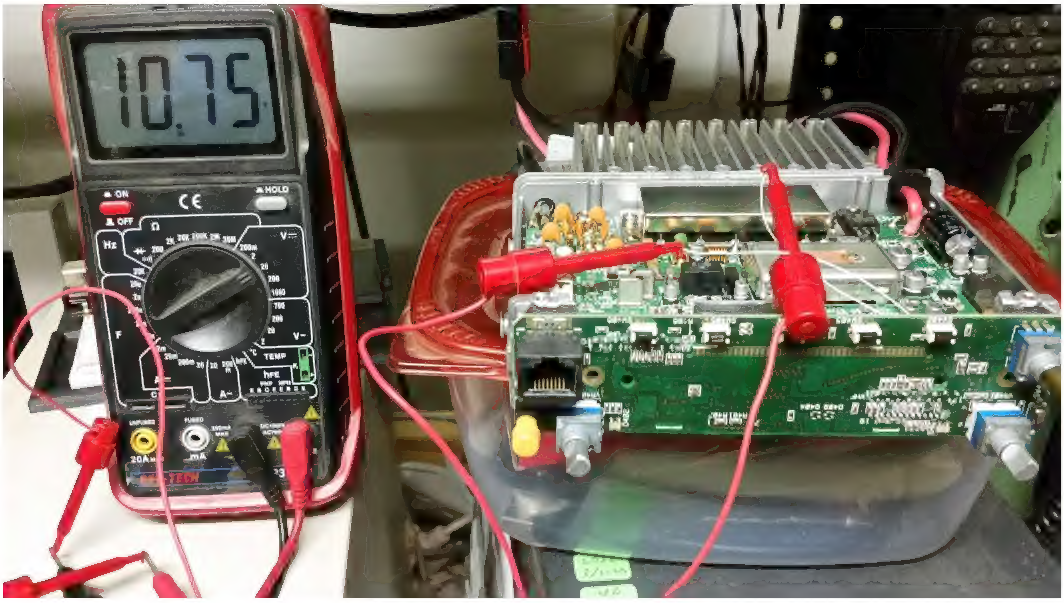
February 2024

The old burned out bulb is visible in the middle of the picture. Floating about ¼ inch above the board with the tiny yellow sleeve on it.

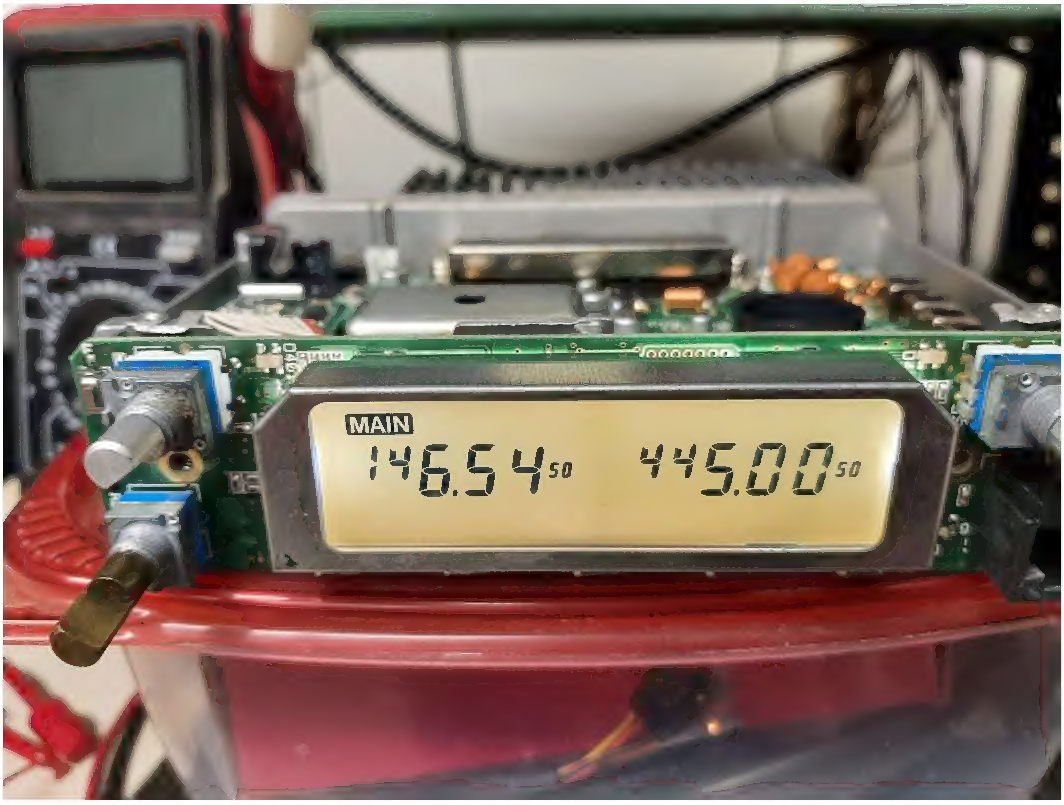


Just to check, I soldered a few wires where the lamp was connected.

Put the control board back on, plugged it in, and measured the voltage. The actual LCD is still removed. 10.7 volts is fine, I will just pick a resistor to match that voltage. 1 K Ohm resistor will give 10 milli-Amps through the LED, well under its capability with no heat sink.



Pulled off the little temporary wires, soldered in the LEDS and resistor. And the end result - the display glowing in the dark. Put the covers back on, reprogram the memories, and back in the truck for more years of service!

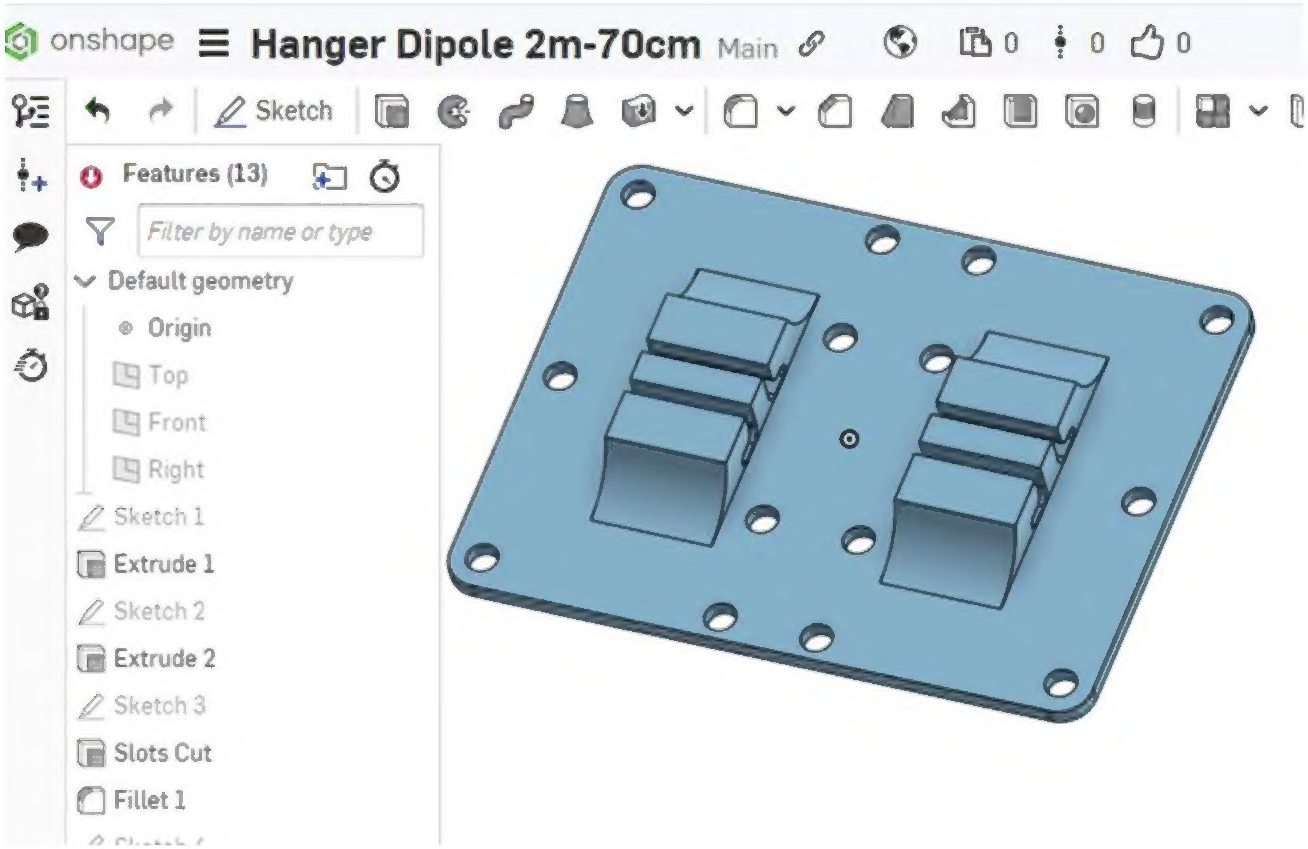


February 2024

Recycling Wire Hanger into 2m/70cm Dipole Antenna by Kerwin N6YHX

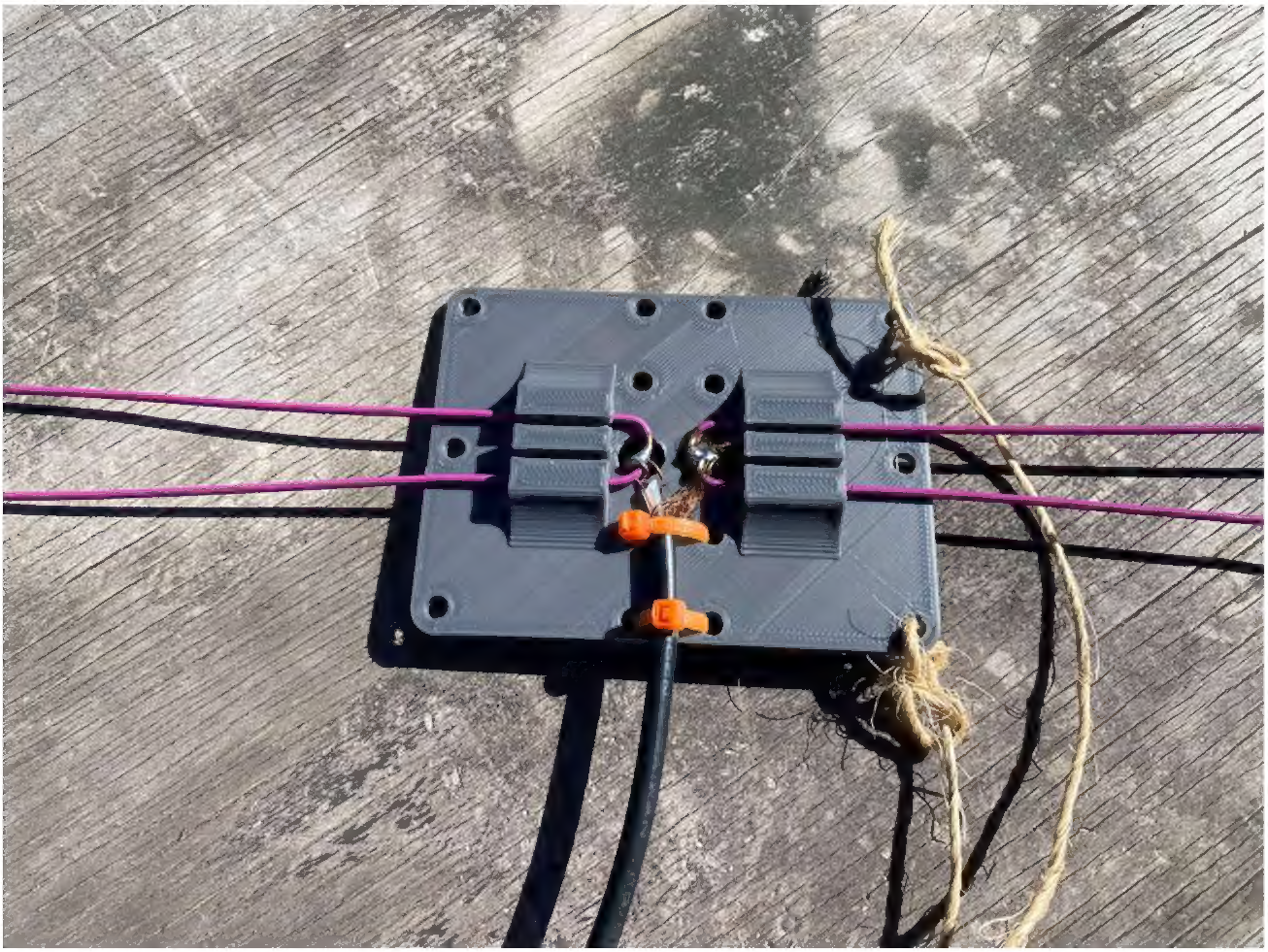
We were cleaning out a closet when my wife handed me some wire hangers and told me to go and recycle them. I was wondering if I could use them to make some kind of antenna so I researched wire hanger antennas on YouTube University and watched someone use hot glue and some connectors to make a 2m/70cm dipole antenna (Mike M0MSN). I thought of a better way and since I have a 3D printer, I designed a mount for the wire hangers and coax.

I used a free online 3D CAD program called Onshape and printed it using my Creality Ender 3 Max printer. It would be better to use a material like PETG because it will be used outside and this material possesses better UV stability. For this print though, I just used PLA since it was loaded in the printer.



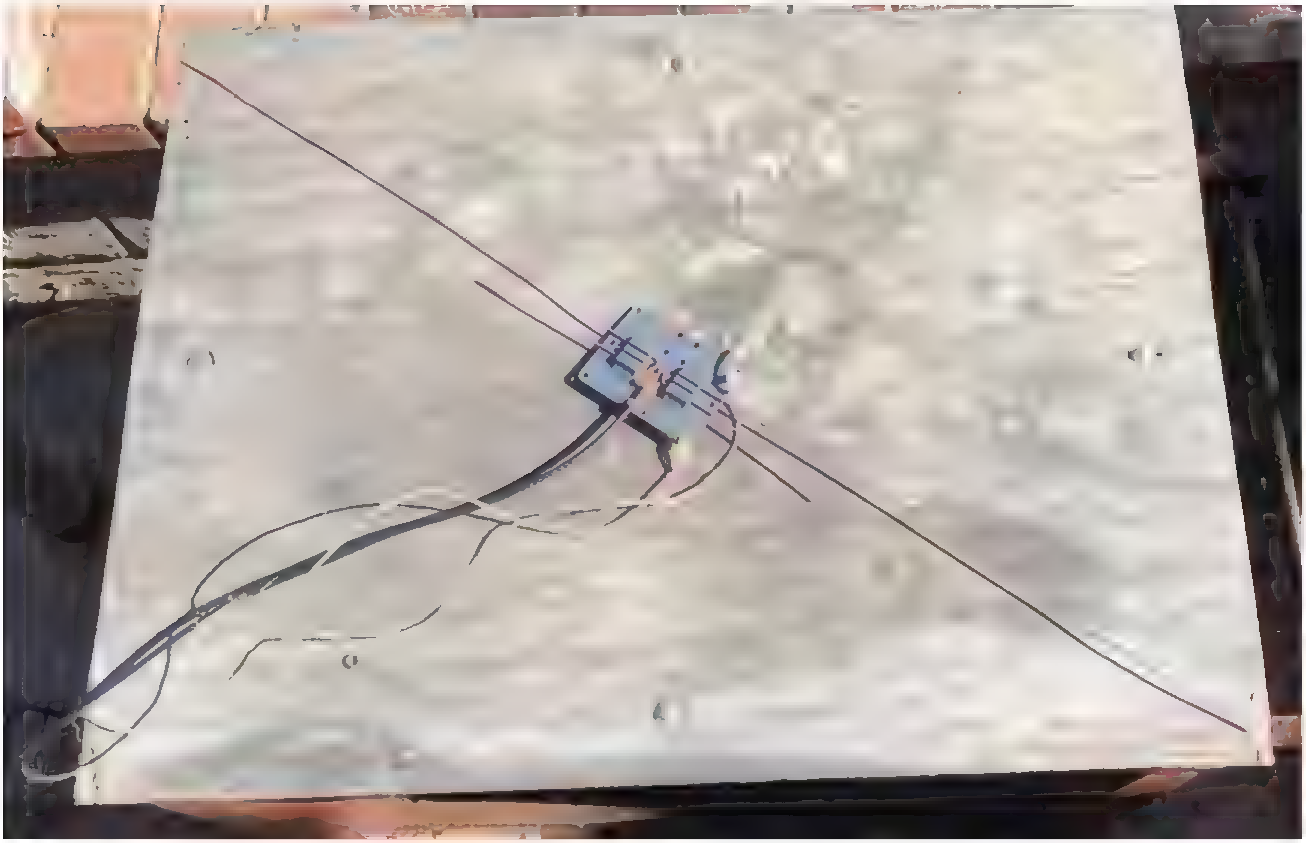
February 2024

This design uses two wire hangers that have been trimmed and bent and a old piece of coax I had laying around with a connector only on one end. After scratching the paint off the wire, I soldered one wire hanger to the center conductor and the coax braid to the other wire hanger (see attached image). Zip ties were used to secure the coax to the 3D printed base.



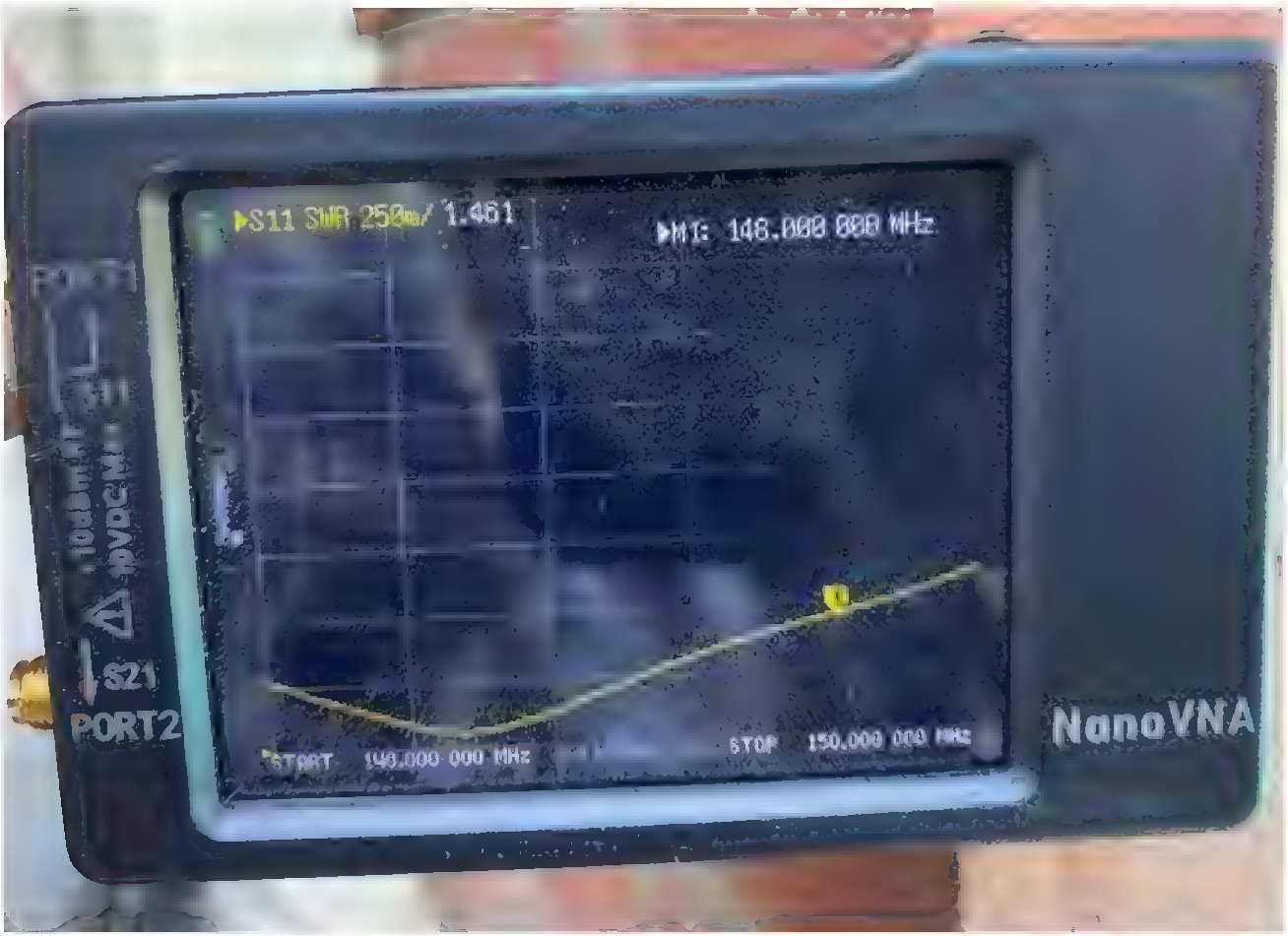
February 2024

After trimming the longer side to approximately 19" for ½ wave 2m and the shorter length to approximately 5 7/8" for ½ wave 70cm, I checked the VSWR using my NanoVNA.



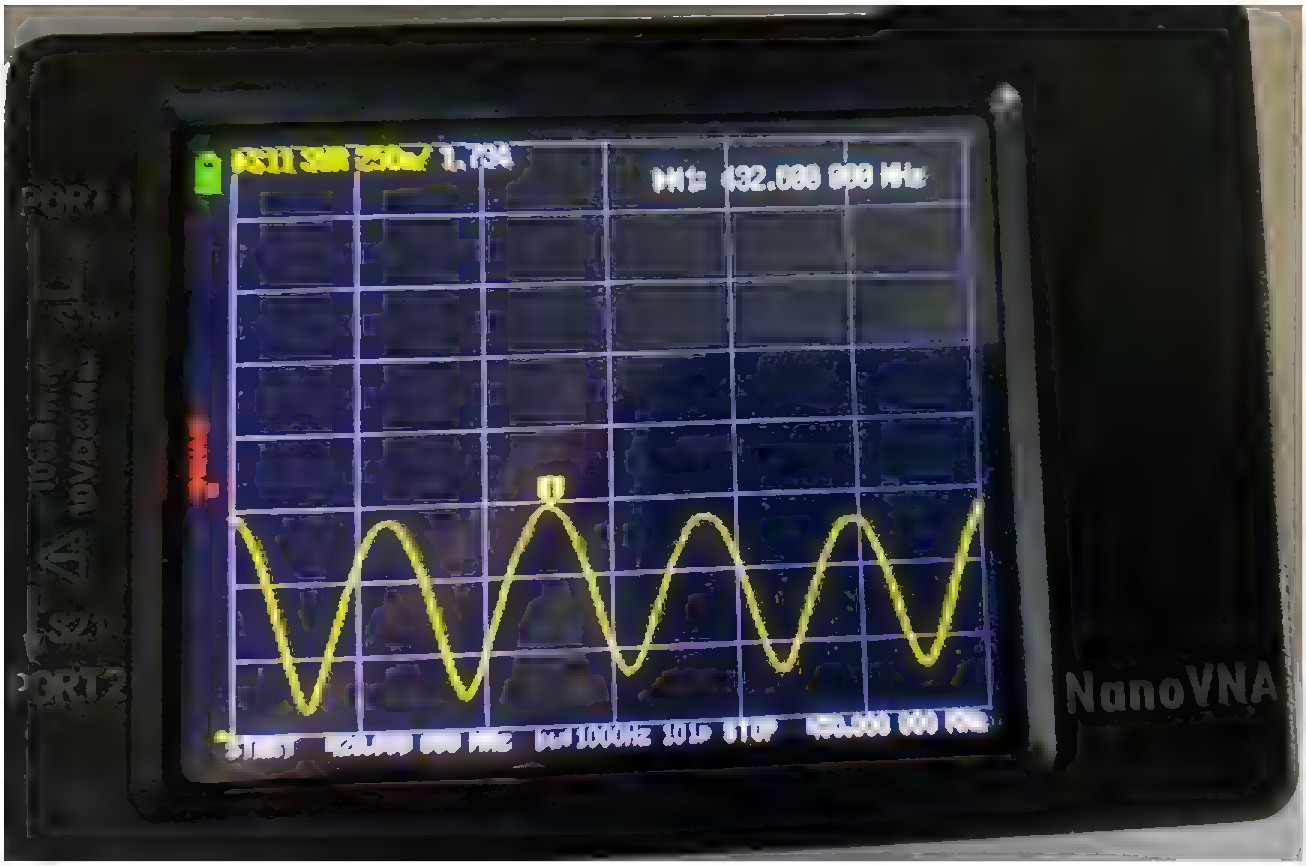
February 2024

I was pleased with the VSWR ratio on 2m with a maximum of about 1.5:1 or below across the whole band.



February 2024

For 70cm, the VSWR was a little higher and oddly shaped but it was less that, 1.75:1 across the band.



The hanger wires are a little flimsy so I am not sure how long they will hold up outside. One advantage of this design is that this antenna can be easily mounted for horizontal or vertical polarization.

If you have extra wire hangers and are looking for a project, you might consider making one yourself. I have placed the STL file on Thingiverse, you can get it here:

https://www.thingiverse.com/thing:6455573

Hope this sparks some ideas.

73s Kerwyn N6YHX

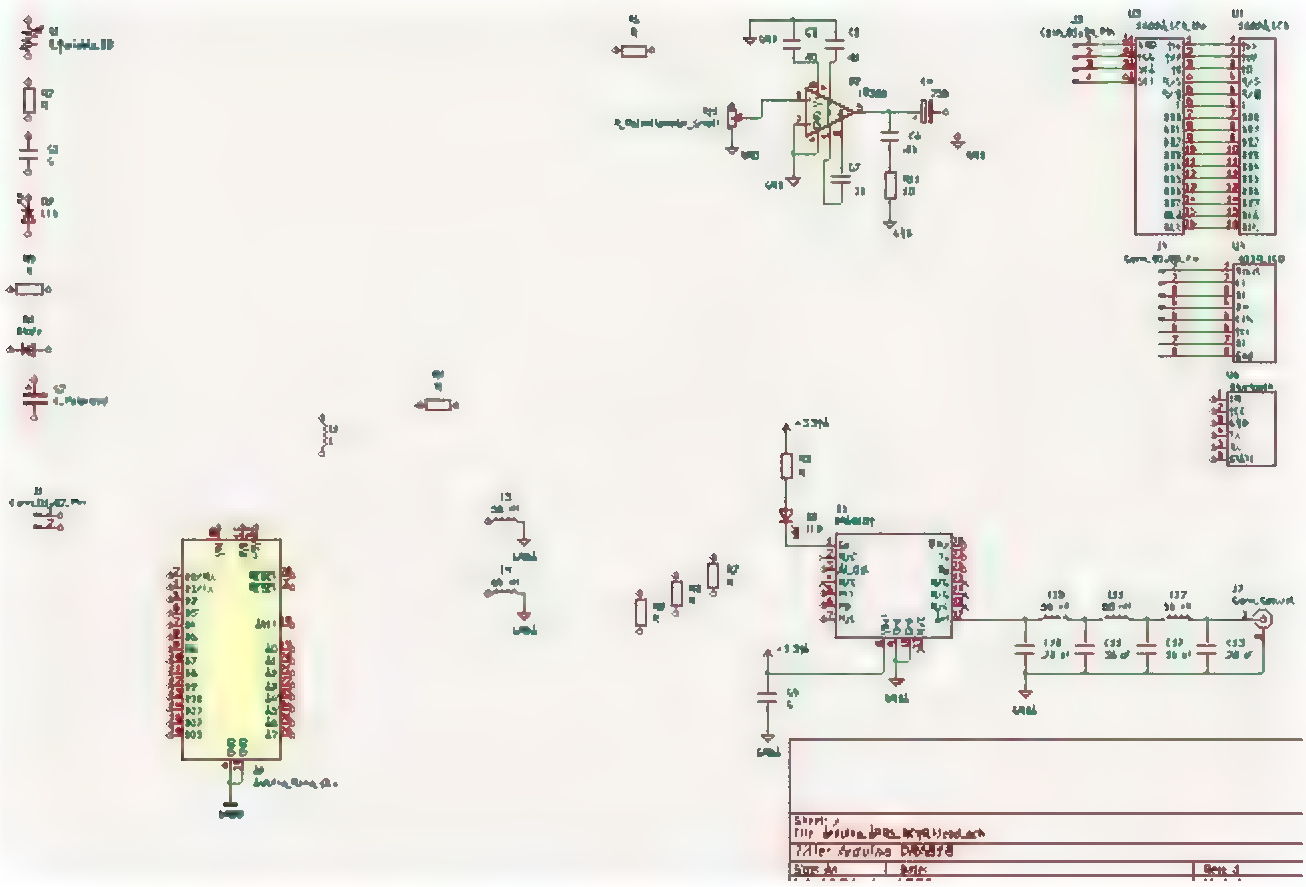
February 2024

Arduino Dorji Radio Updates by Eric KE6MLF

Remember my goal of using Arduino microcontrollers with the Dorji VHF transceiver module? A 1 watt voice radio, APRS beacon, APRS receiver, VHF beacon, a Foxhunt transmitter… All these parts, and so many ideas…I am going to make a "large" PCB with all the parts on it, and see what works the best. If desired, I will re-layout just the bits required for a given purpose.

Time to get the project a bit more organized. It is now called the Arduino Dorji Radio, or ADR. We could call it "Messy Pile of Stuff on the Workbench", or MPSW, but that could be ANY project I work on.. **Matt N3AR** is jumping in with me. He created a shared drive on the net, organized a chart with all the various schematics, designs, and Arduino sketches for the Dorji transceiver module.

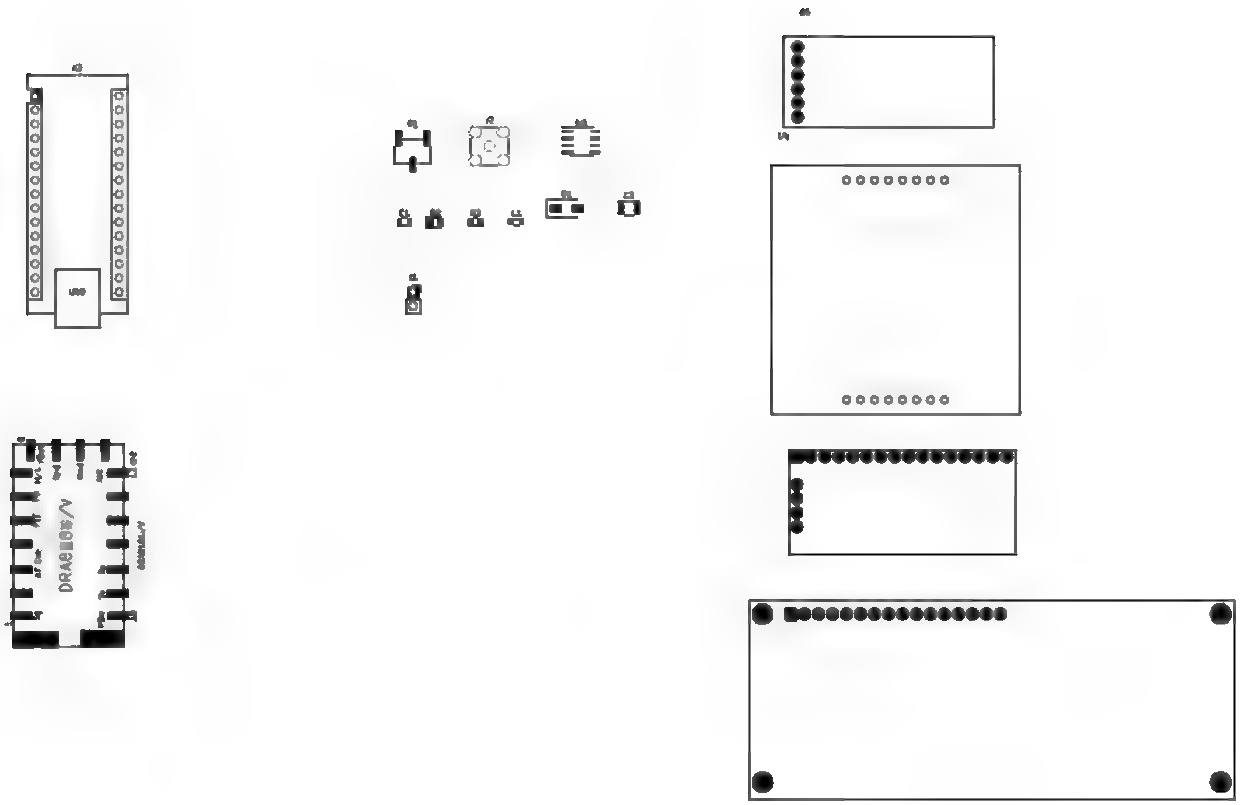
I have the schematic and PCB layout started, not to "design" anything, but just to collect the various parts we want to use. How they are interconnected and placed is yet to be determined. Here is the Arduino, Dorji transceiver, 2 different LCDs, the Bluetooth transceiver, and an audio amplifier for the output speaker. Do not try to make sense of it, this is just a collection of ideas.



February 2024

Here is the PCB, really just done to get ideas about how big the board is going to be and if I got the right foot print.

This is the Arduino, Dorji Transceiver module, two different LCDs, and a bluetooth transceiver. The little tiny blips are resistors, capacitors, diodes, LEDs….



Stay tuned as this project grows, it will be more clear as we progress.

February 2024

SSARC Marketplace

This section of the newsletter is for Simi Settler club members to post various used or previously owned items for sale that they may no longer have a need or use of. Please submit a brief description of the sale items (along with a photo if possible) and suggested price to Eric Oberg KE6MLF, the newsletter editor, at least two days before newsletter publication. It is suggested that a portion of each sale be donated to the SSARC treasury to help support the club's several activities. The term "OBO" means "Or Best Offer" and serves only as a starting point in negotiating a fair price.

MFJ-335 MOBILE ANTENNA MAGNETIC MOUNT

This heavy-duty 5"diameter magnetic antenna mount uses a powerful 2.5 pound magnetic base for secure mounting on top of most vehicles. It features a standard 3/8-24 threaded receptacle for attaching various hamstick or other whip antennas as needed. The 9-1/2 ft. length of RG-58 cable has a standard PL-259 UHF end connector. Typical cost of this magnetic antenna mount from MFJ or DX Engineering is $29.95.

Condition: Excellent Price: $10 or OBO. Contact Mike Tweedy KV6I (805-231-9683)

AEA DM-1 DEVIATION METER

This AEA model DM-1 deviation meter can be used to adjust the maximum deviation levels on transceivers that allow adjustable frequency deviation settings for FM transmissions on 2m, 1.25m or 70 cm. Typically, for wideband audio FM on the 2 meter amateur band, this would be 5 kHz. For narrowband audio FM, this would be 2.5 kHz. For CTCSS sub-audible tones, this would typically be 1 kHz. Transceivers with excessive deviation can cause out-of-band signals (or "splatter") which can interfere with adjacent channel signals. A similar sale of this item was recently found on Ebay for $65. The unit is powered by an internal 9-V battery and the AEA operating manual is included.

Condition: Excellent Price: $10 or OBO. Contact Mike Tweedy KV6I (805-231-9683)

February 2024

LAFAYETTE RADIO MODEL TE-50 TUBE TESTER

This portable tube tester from Lafayette Radio is perfect for testing vacuum tubes from classic radios and television receivers sold back in the day. It has eight tube sockets capable of testing standard Octal, Loctal, 7-pin miniature, 9-pin miniature types as well as well as 9- and 12-pin Compactron tubes and nuvistor tubes that were popular back in the 1950's and 1960's. Tests include leakage, shorts and tube emission (e.g.- gain or μ-measurements). The tester includes a slide-out chart drawer plus supplemental charts for newer-type tubes listing the required selector switch and slide switch settings for each tube under test including a test clip for testing tubes with high-voltage anode top caps such as those used for horizontal sweep circuits of earlier televisions. Similar Lafayette Model TE-50 Tube Testers are listed on E-Bay for $99.99 or more.

Condition: Very Good Price: $20 or OBO. Contact Mike Tweedy KV6I (805-231-9683)

February 2024

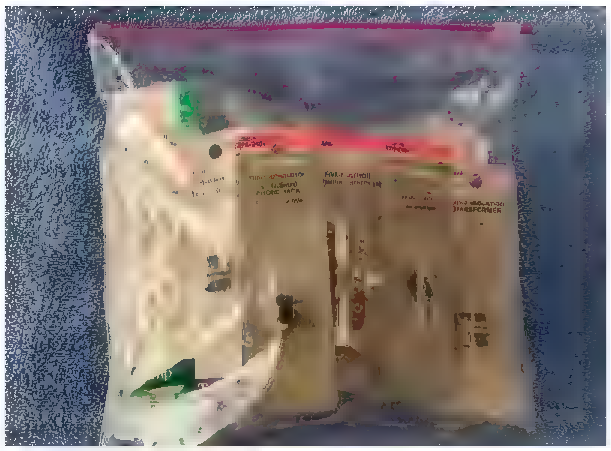
RADIO SHACK MODEL 15-1244 RF MODULATOR

This Radio Shack RF modulator can provide an NTSC type RF signal to older TVs or video monitors that require an analog signal as an input. The output is user-selectable for either channel 3 or channel 4 output and can provide 75 ohm or 1k ohm impedance. Input is AV video/video using standard phono-type plug cables. An RF coax jumper cable is provided.

Condition: Excellent Price: $10 or OBO. Contact Mike Tweedy KV6I (805-231-9683)

February 2024

GRAB BAG OF MISCELLANEOUS COMPONENTS



After recently cleaning out my closet, I came upon several components that I may have had thoughts of using over 20 years ago but unfortunately was not able to do so. I paid well over $30 for these components back then but sadly, that did not occur so I am offering these components to any experimenter who would like to use them accordingly. These components are in their original packaging and have never been opened.

What I have is the following:

1) RS P/N 274-246 1/8" 3-conductor phone jacks (Qty = 2)
2) RS P/N 274-245 3/32 Subminiature phone jack (Qty = 1)
3) RS P/N 272-11524 B-pin LED lamps (Qty = 2)
4) RS P/N 272-1092C 12-volt micro lamps (Qty = 2)
5) RS P/N 273-1374 Audio isolation transformers (Qty = 2)
6) RS P/N 274-688B Five-Position Terminal Strip (Qty=1)
7) RS P/N 270-235 Aluminum Project Enclosure (Qty=2)

Condition: Never Used Price: $5 or OBO. Contact Mike Tweedy KV6I (805-231-9683)

February 2024

From Kevin, KD6UTC; I'm selling some of my HF equipment that I don't use. I would like to sell it as a bundle. I hope this will be a good start kit for one of our members new to HF.

SSARC Marketplace HF bundle

- ICOM 7300 with original box
- LDG Electronics Z-100PLUS - Automatic Antenna Tuner
- LDG RBA 4:1 Balun
- LDG RBA 1:1 Balun
- (2) MFJ HAM sticks 20M
- (2) MFJ HAM sticks 40M
- (2) Mirror/Pipe Antenna Mounts
- MFJ Double T Pipe Mount

Condition: Excellent Price: $850 - **NOW REDUCED to $750**

Contact Kevin (KD6UTC) kevin.deadwylier@gmail.com

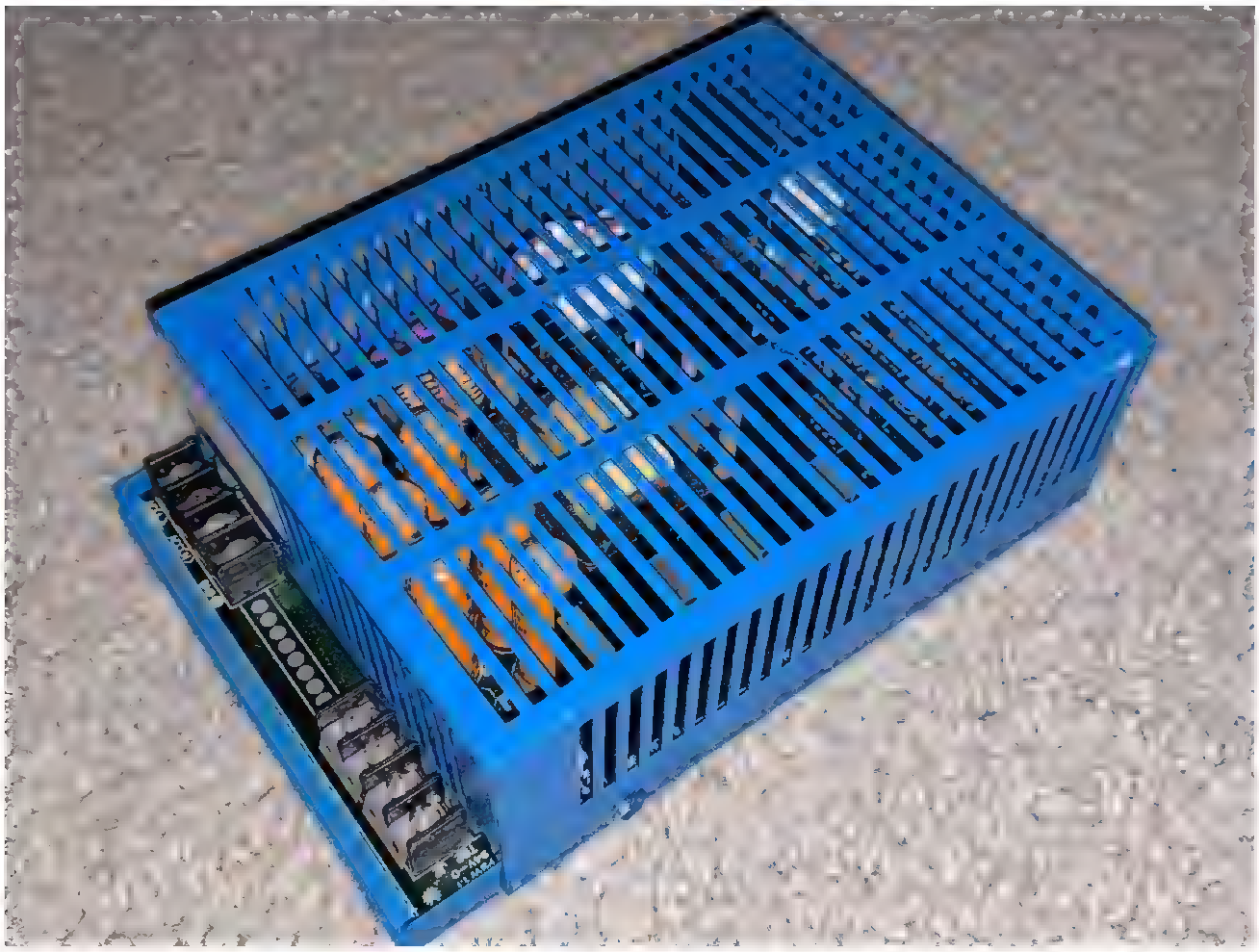
February 2024

From Glenn WA6GNB

GrandStream # 1620/1625 telephone for sale. New – still in the original box. Compatible with our MESH system. $30.00 Contact Glen at gnb.2112@yahoo.com

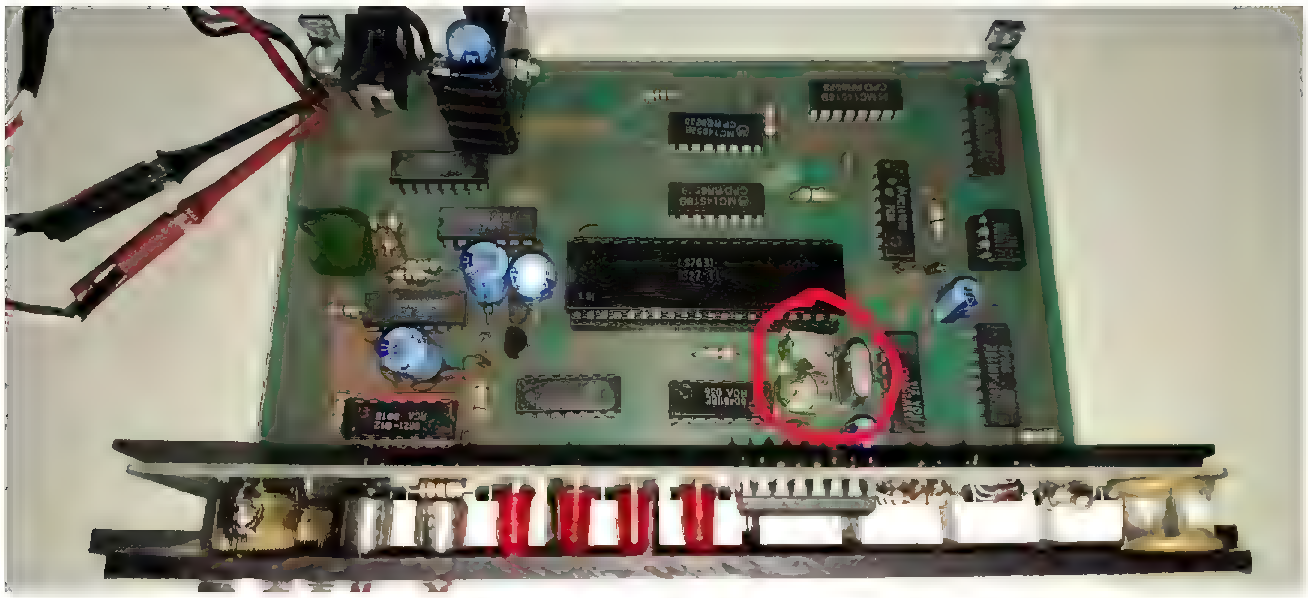
From Sergey KT4UFA - ut4ufa@gmail.com

AC-DC switching power supply.
Input 115V AC 50-60Hz
Output 12V DC 5.4 Amps
It has small trimer to fine adjust output voltage
Dimensions: 7.5*5*2.5
Free, self pickup.



Frequency counter, Datascan C1400
Sensitivity 50 mVpp
The input BNC connectors are a little bit rusty, need cleaning up.
Internal battery is dead, was removed, and needs replacement.

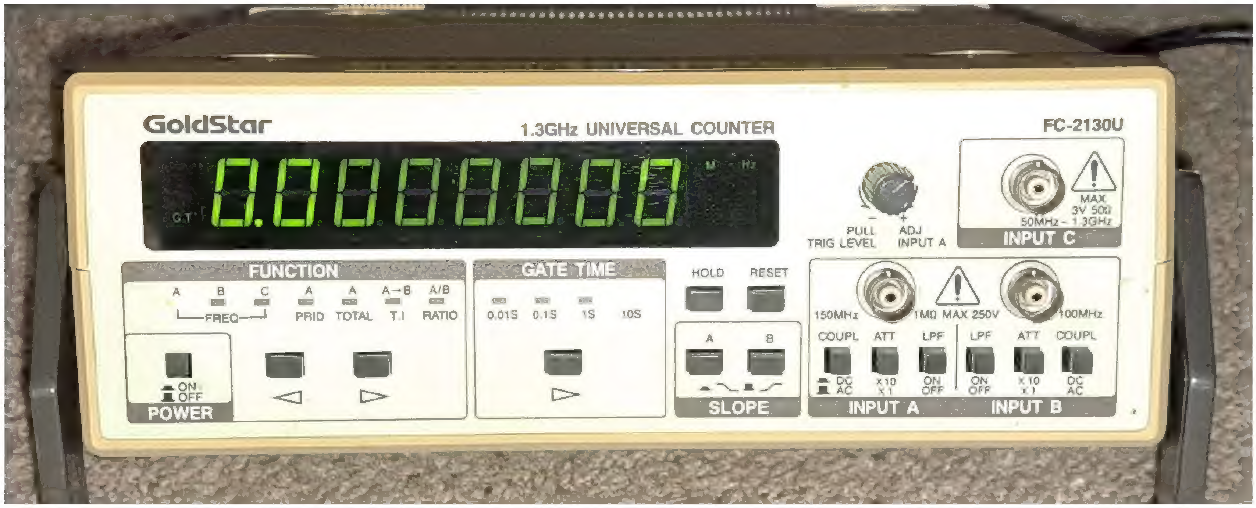
To power up the device, on the back side present a connector for external power supply.
I made calibration, but the frequency counter is equipped with simple crystal quartz, so accuracy and stability is not so good.
Free, self pickup.



February 2024

Signal generator, Kronh-Hite model 5400A
Fully analog.
5 MHz.
Ramp, Sine, Triangle, Square.
$30

Frequency counter - Gold Star FC-2130U
1.3 GHz
3 input ports. Coupling, Attenuation, Filtering.
Mathematical function.
$60

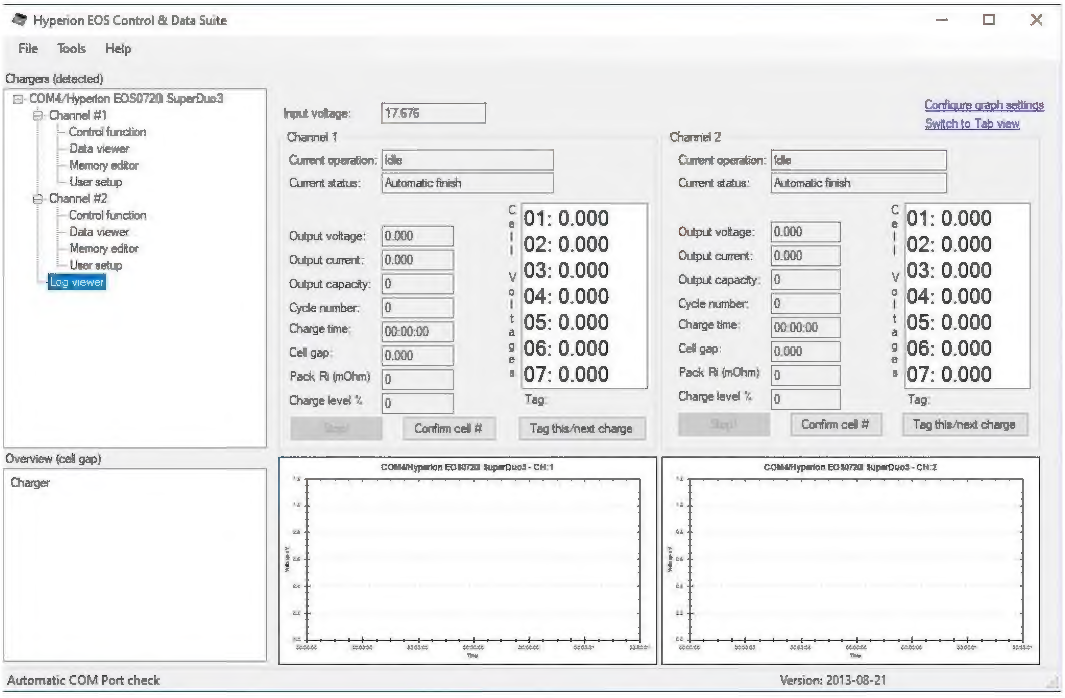


February 2024

Universal, programmable, multi chemistry battery charger:
Hyperion EOS 720i Super DUO 3
+ Various cables set.
+ PC control and monitor software.

Power supply: eFuel 30A 540W

$150



February 2024

Simi Settlers' Amateur Radio Club Web Page: http://www.simisettlers.org/index.htm
Simi Settlers' ARC Yahoo Group: http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SimiSettlersARC
Mail: P.O. Box 2125 Simi Valley, CA 93062-2125

Simi Settlers' Leadership				
President	Brian Hernandez	KM6MIN	(805) 813-7595 cell	km6min_bh@yahoo.com
Vice President	VACANT			
Secretary	Ron Nelson	K6RIN		rnelson759@sbcglobal.net
Treasurer	Matt Griffin	KN6SEC		mgriffi79@yahoo.com
Committee Chairpersons				
Webmaster	Matt Griffin	KN6SEC	(661) 361-5955 cell	mgriffi79@yahoo.com
Newsletter	Eric Oberg	KE6MLF	(805) 791-0745 cell	ericoberg1@gmail.com
Membership	Jim Parker	KJ6LXJ	(805) 368-6745 cell	kj6lxj@gmail.com
PIO	Donnie Williams	KJ6TTN	(818 974-0020 cell	donniewilliams@gmail.com
Raffle Prizes	Matt Griffin	KN6SEC	(805) 433-4513 cell	mgriffi79@yahoo.com
Youth Coordinator	VACANT			
Historian	Mike Tweedy	KV6I	(805) 231-9683 cell	mtweedy@roadrunner.com
Net Coordinator	Brian Hernandez	KM6MIN	(805) 813-7595 cell	km6min_bh@yahoo.com
Food Services	Bill Everett	KI6KSV		ki6ksv@gmail.com
Room Coordinator	Linda Parker		(805) 558-1731 cell	kj6lxj@gmail.com
Elmers and Members at Large				
Past-President	Bill Woods	AB6BW	(818) 694-9019 cell	AB6BW1@gmail.com
Advisor	Bill Everett	KI6KSV		ki6ksv@gmail.com
Advisor Morse Code	John Percival	WI6O		johnspercival1@gmail.com
Advisor Mesh	Orv Beach	W6BI		orv.beach@gmail.com

Simi Settlers Amateur Radio Club

P.O. Box 2125 Simi Valley, Ca 93062-2125 --- (www.simisettlers.org)

Membership Application

Type of Application: **Type of Membership:**

New Member ☐ Individual ($25/yr) ☐
Renewal ☐ Family ($30/yr) ☐

Name: _____ Day & Month of Birth: _____
(Omit year)

Call: _____ Class: _____ ARRL: Yes ☐ No ☐

Address: _____ City: _____ State: ___ Zip:_____

Phone: (____) _____ Alt. Phone: (____) _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Additional Family Members:

Name: _____ Day & Month of Birth: _____
(Omit year)

Call: _____ Class: _____ ARRL: Yes ☐ No ☐

Name: _____ Day & Month of Birth: _____
(Omit year)

Call: _____ Class: _____ ARRL: Yes ☐ No ☐

Name: _____ Day & Month of Birth: _____
(Omit year)

Call: _____ Class: _____ ARRL: Yes ☐ No ☐

Badges requested: Yes ☐ No ☐ How many? _____ X $18.00 = $ _____

Name (s) Call(s): _____

Shirt Printing: Yes ☐ No ☐ How many? _____ X $25.00 = $ _____

Name (s) Call(s):_____(Self Supplied Polo Shirt, no emblem or pocket)

Hats Requested: Yes ☐ No ☐ How many? _____ X $20.00 = $ _____

Name (s) Call(s):_____

OFFICE USE ONLY

Application type: New ☐ Renewal ☐ Membership type: Individual ☐ Family ☐

Date Received: _____ Amount Received: _____ Database completed: _____

Badges and Shirts ordered: _____

February 2024